

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
 - providing a plurality of pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions, wherein a multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expression includes any of:
 - a plurality of characters; and
 - a combination of characters and spaces that separate characters;
 - receiving input that corresponds to only a portion of a particular multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expression; and
 - using the portion of the particular multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expression to disambiguate amongst the plurality of pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions to thereby select a selected multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expression as likely correlating to the particular multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expression.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a character can comprise any of:
 - a linguistic element;
 - a non-linguistic element.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 [[2]] wherein a linguistic element can comprise any of:
 - an alphanumeric character;
 - an ideogram ~~idiogram~~;

- a punctuation mark.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein providing a plurality of pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions comprises providing a plurality of non-user specific pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein providing a plurality of pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions comprises providing a plurality of user specific pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein providing a plurality of pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions comprises providing a plurality of:

- non-user specific pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions;
- and
- user specific pre-identified multi-sentence ~~graphic-symbolic~~ expressions.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving input comprises receiving input via at least one of:

- a full keyboard;
- an abbreviated keyboard;
- a handwriting recognizer; and
- a speech recognizer ~~recognizes~~.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein either of the full keyboard and abbreviated keyboard can comprise any of:

- a mechanical keyboard; and
- a soft keyboard.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~using the portion of the particular graphic symbolic expression to disambiguate amongst the plurality of pre-identified graphic symbolic expressions to thereby select a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the particular graphic symbolic expression comprises using the portion of the particular graphic symbolic expression to disambiguate amongst the plurality of pre-identified graphic symbolic expressions to thereby select a selected graphic symbolic expression that~~ the multi-sentence expression comprises a multi-sentence multi-word linguistic expression.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for use with an abbreviated keyboard wherein at least some keys ambiguously represent multiple graphic symbolic characters, the method comprising:

- providing a plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions that are associated with members of a group, wherein a graphic symbolic expression includes any of:

- a plurality of characters; and
- a combination of characters and spaces that separate characters;

and wherein the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions includes at least one ~~user-specific~~ pre-identified graphic symbolic expressions expression that is more commonly used by the members of the group than by members of the general population;

- receiving input via the abbreviated keyboard that corresponds to only a portion of a user-intended particular graphic symbolic expression and that ambiguously corresponds to a plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions;

- using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein:

- a character can comprise any of:
 - a linguistic element; and
 - a non-linguistic element;

and wherein a linguistic element can comprise any of:

- an alphanumeric character;
- an ideogram ~~idiogram~~; and
- a punctuation mark.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression comprises using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression that comprises a multi-word linguistic expression.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby

disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression comprises using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression that comprises a partial-sentence multi-word linguistic expression.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression comprises using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression that comprises a complete-sentence multi-word linguistic expression.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression comprises using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression that comprises a multi-sentence multi-word linguistic expression.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a

selected graphic symbolic expression as likely correlating to the user-intended graphic symbolic expression comprises using the input and the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions to thereby disambiguate amongst the plurality of possible graphic symbolic expressions to provide a selected graphic symbolic expression that comprises a multi-word linguistic expression wherein at least one word of the multi-word linguistic expression comprises at least one of:

- an abbreviation;
- an ideogram;
- at least one numeric character; and
- a punctuation mark.

22. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a graphic symbol entry device;
- at least one memory containing a plurality of pre-identified group-specific

graphic symbolic expressions that is associated with members of a group, the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions being more commonly used by the members of the group than by members of the general population, wherein a graphic symbolic expression includes any of:

- a plurality of characters; and
- a combination of characters and spaces that separate characters;
- a disambiguator operably coupled to:
 - the graphic symbol entry device to facilitate receiving a portion of a

particular graphic symbolic expression as entered by a user using the graphic symbol entry device; and

- the at least one memory;

and having an output comprising a given one of the pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions as disambiguated from others of the plurality of pre-identified

group-specific graphic symbolic expressions as based upon the portion of the particular graphic symbolic expression.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the graphic symbol entry device comprises a keypad having keys, wherein at least some of the keys have a plurality of differing alphanumeric characters assigned thereto.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the apparatus comprises a cellular telephone.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 and further comprising a display having an input operably coupled to the output of the disambiguator.

26. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the disambiguator comprises disambiguation means for disambiguating amongst the plurality of pre-identified group-specific graphic symbolic expressions as a function, at least in part, of the portion of the particular graphic symbolic expression.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the memory is disposed integral to the disambiguator.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the memory is disposed remote to the disambiguator.